4. (Twice Amended) A mounting structure according to claim 2, wherein the protruding member is positioned such that the box body receives the impact off the center of rotation of the box body.

7. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 and 8-10 are presently pending in this application, Claims 7 and 11 having been canceled, and Claims 1-4 having been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 3 was objected to because of informality; and Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Baba et al. (U.S. Patent 6,085,598).

In response to the objection of Claim 3, the noted informality has been corrected herein. Furthermore, Claim 1 has been amended based on the subject matters recited in Claims 4 and 11, Claim 2 based on the subject matter recited in Claim 7, and Claim 4 to depend singly from Claim 2. Hence, no new matter has been added thereby.

Briefly, Claim 1 of the present invention is directed to a mounting structure for a vehicle electrical connection box, including a protruding member provided to a box body of the electrical connection box and positioned to receive an impact from a first direction, and at least one breakable mounting member mounting the box body to a part of a vehicle, the at least one breakable mounting member positioned to break due to a stress generated by the

impact received by the protruding member, wherein the protruding member is positioned such that the box body receives the impact off the center of rotation of the box body, the protruding member extends along the first direction, and the at least one breakable mounting member extends substantially along an imaginary plane parallel to the first direction.

The outstanding Office Action asserts that Baba et al. disclose a mounting structure for a vehicle electrical connection box. Nevertheless, Baba et al. do not teach "at least one breakable mounting member mounting the box body to a part of a vehicle, the at least one breakable mounting member positioned to break due to a stress generated by the impact received by the protruding member ..., wherein ... the at least one breakable mounting member extends substantially along an imaginary plane parallel to the first direction" as recited in Claim 1 as amended. Referring to Applicant's Figs. 4A and 4B, the breakable mounting members 33-36 each extend substantially along the imaginary plane 31 parallel to the first direction (P). On the other hand, according to Figs 4B or 7B of Baba et al., the connection member 21 alone cannot support the sensor device to the bracket 30 but the pair of stubs 24 is also required for mounting the sensor device. As such, the surface of the cover 20 including the connection member 21 and the pair of stubs 24 would be "a breakable mounting member." However, such a breakable mounting member according to Baba et al. does not extend along a plane.[1] Therefore, the structure recited in Claim 1 is believed to be distinguishable from Baba et al.

Claim 2 is directed to a mounting structure for a vehicle electrical connection box arranged rearward of and in the vicinity of a dash panel serving as a partition between an engine space in a vehicle and an adjacent compartment and includes a protruding member extending from a box body of the electrical connection box toward the dash panel and

[1] See Baba et al., Fig. 3A.

positioned to receive an impact from a first direction, and at least one breakable planar mounting member mounting the box body to a cowl side panel of the vehicle, extending in a direction intersecting the first direction, and positioned to break due to a stress generated by the impact received by the at least one breakable planar mounting member, wherein the dash panel is provided substantially perpendicular to the cowl side panel, and the at least one breakable planar mounting member has a principal plane substantially parallel to a direction which the protruding member is extending. The at least one breakable planar mounting member 33-36 recited in amended Claim 2 has the principal plane 31 substantially parallel to the direction (P) along which the protruding member is extending. However, the "breakable mounting member" 20 according to Baba et al. is not a planar member and does not have a principal plane. Thus, the structure recited in Claim 2 is also believed to be distinguishable from Baba et al.

Turning to Claim 3, Claim 3 is directed to a mounting structure for a vehicle electrical connection box having a box body comprising at least two breakable planar mounting members mounting the box body to a part of a vehicle, extending substantially along a first plane and diagonally positioned to break after the box body receive an impact in a direction substantially parallel to the first plane. Baba et al. disclose a pressure sensor device having breakable mounting member, but do not teach *at least two breakable planar mounting members mounting the box body to a part of a vehicle, extending substantially along a first plane and diagonally positioned to break after the box body receive an impact in a direction substantially parallel to the first plane* as recited in Claim 3 and shown in Figs. 4 A-4C. As previously discussed, Baba et al. simply disclose the breakable connecting member 21 discussed above and the pair of stubs 24 which is inserted in the arcuate opening 32 for

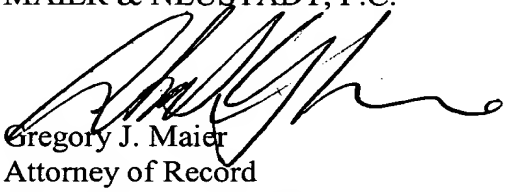
securing the bracket 30 to the cover 20. Thus, the structure recited in Claim 3 is believed to be distinguishable for Baba et al.

For the foregoing reasons, Claims 1-3 are believed to be allowable. Furthermore, since Claims 4-6 and 10 ultimately depend from one of Claims 1-3, substantially the same arguments set forth above also apply to these dependent claims. Hence, Claims 4-6 and 10 are believed to be allowable as well.

In view of the amendments and discussions presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
Akihiro Yamazaki
Registration No. 46,155

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
GJM/AY:fm
I:\ATTY\AKY\21s\216153\ame 3.wpd

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-4 as follows:

--1. (Twice Amended) A mounting structure for a vehicle electrical connection box, comprising:

a protruding member provided to a box body of the electrical connection box and positioned to receive an impact from a first direction; and

at least one breakable mounting member mounting the box body to a part of a vehicle, the at least one breakable mounting member positioned to break due to a stress generated by the impact received by the protruding member,

wherein the protruding member is positioned such that the box body receives the impact off the center of rotation of the box body, the protruding member extends along the first direction, and the at least one breakable mounting member extends substantially along an imaginary plane parallel to the first direction.

2. (Twice Amended) A mounting structure for a vehicle electrical connection box arranged rearward of and in the vicinity of a dash panel serving as a partition between an engine space in a vehicle and an adjacent compartment, comprising:

a protruding member extending from a box body of the electrical connection box toward the dash panel and positioned to receive an impact from a first direction; and

at least one breakable planar mounting member mounting the box body to a cowl side panel of the vehicle, extending

in a direction intersecting the first direction, and positioned to break due to a stress generated by the impact received by the at least one breakable planar mounting member,

wherein the dash panel is provided substantially perpendicular to the cowl side panel, and the at least one breakable planar mounting member has a principal plane substantially parallel to a direction which the protruding member is extending.

3. (Twice Amended) A mounting structure for a vehicle electrical connection box having a box body comprising at least two breakable planar mounting members mounting the box body to a part of a vehicle, extending substantially along a first plane and diagonally positioned to break after the box body [receive] receives an impact in a direction substantially parallel to the first plane.

4. (Twice Amended) A mounting structure according to [one of claims 1 to 2] claim 2, wherein the protruding member is positioned such that the box body receives the impact off the center of rotation of the box body.

7. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)--